



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

strengthen the conventional view that Houston was merely coquetting with England to stimulate the jealousy of the United States.

Of positive errors discoverable by this reviewer there are not many. But Santa Anna was not president of Mexico "in 1832 and again in 1835" (p. 65, note). He was elected in 1833 for a term of four years, ending March, 1837. On page 93 we are told of the "signing" of the Texan treaties in 1842, though what is meant is that ratifications were then exchanged. There seems to be some uncertainty concerning the origin of the so-called "Robinson armistice": on page 128 it is correctly said to have been suggested by J. W. Robinson, a Texan prisoner in Mexico, but on page 133 the statement is that "The plan had originated with Santa Anna." On the same page (133) the date of Elliot's receipt of Aberdeen's despatch should presumably read "Early in July" instead of June, since it was dated in London on June 3 (see p. 130, note 8). Anson Jones can hardly be said to have been a "prominent revolutionary leader" (p. 196). And the name of the French chargé to Texas was not "Savigny" (pp. 208, 209, 210, 215), but Saligny. One encounters here and there an apparent tendency to accept at face value the motives of diplomats as avowed by themselves, and on page 147 there are signs of a curious faith that if they do not always tell the truth they ought to. The compact style of the book, devoid of the explanatory matter which no doubt accompanied the lectures, makes it difficult reading, and sometimes leads the writer to the statement of important conclusions without revealing the process by which he reached them; for example, one doubts the assertion on page 159 that "Aberdeen was ready [in January, 1844] to go the length of a direct prohibition of annexation in case he found France acquiescent," until the evidence for this is later supplied (pp. 168-169) in Murphy's memorandum to Aberdeen of May 31. There is a final chapter of thirty pages, reprinted from *The American Historical Review*, on British interest in the annexation of California.

EUGENE C. BARKER.

---

*The Austin College Bulletin*, October, 1910, Volume II, Number 13, contains an article on the "Life and Work of Stephen F. Austin," by L. A. Wright, holder of the Stephen F. Austin Fellow-

ship in History and Political Science in Austin College. Mr. Wright has used to advantage such printed material as was available to him, but he has been hampered for want of the wealth of manuscript sources that are only to be obtained at Austin. He somewhat misinterprets Austin in saying that he "conditionally" advised a declaration of independence on November 29 and December 3, 1835 (page 27). Such an impression comes naturally perhaps from that portion of Austin's letter which Brown quotes (*History of Texas*, I, 411-413), but the letter in its entirety shows that Austin did not believe that the time had yet come for a declaration of independence. In the letter of December 3 he argues for a categorical declaration in favor of the constitution of 1824. Two interesting illustrations which the article contains are a picture of Stephen F. Austin at the age of twelve and a picture of the Austin coat of arms.

E. C. B.

---

*Hunter's Magazine*, devoted to "Frontier History, Border Tragedy, and Pioneer Achievement," is edited by John Warren Hunter, of San Angelo, Texas, and published by Marvin Hunter at Carlsbad, Texas. The fifth number of Volume I appeared in March. It promises to perform a useful service for the history of Texas.

---

The Biennial Report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, 1908-1910, pp. 21-31, contains a sketch of the land system of Texas, and a brief account of the history of the Land Office.